

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 SAM-01 OPIC-03 AID-05

OMB-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06 DHA-02

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P R 191709Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5408

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 7560

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: PROGRESS IN HEALING PPD SPLIT

REF: LISBON 7395 (DTG 121305Z DEC 75)

SUMMARY: NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED ON RESTRUCTURING OF AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT, AS TWO SECRETARIES OF STATE WERE NAMED. POPULAR DEMOCRATS (PPD) MADE SOME PROGRESS IN HEALING PARTY SPLIT WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL SA CARNEIRO MAKING CONCESSIONS TO GROUP WHICH HAD THREATENED TO JOIN WALKOUT. PPD DISSIDENTS HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE SUPPORT AMONG PARTY MEMBERS, AND SOME DISSIDENTS ARE  
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REENTERING PARTY. END SUMMARY.

1. NEGOTIATIONS ON CABINET CONTINUE: PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES AND PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO MET THROUGHOUT DEC 17 WITH DELEGATIONS FROM MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN CONTINUING EFFORTS TO RESTRUCTURE GOVERNMENT. NO STATEMENTS WERE RELEASED FOLLOWING MEETINGS. INOR STEP TOWARD RESTRUCTURING GOVERNMENT DID TAKE PLACE DEC 17, HOWEVER, WITH SWEARING IN OF DR. MARIA MATOS MORGADO SANTIAGO BATISTA, AN INDEPENDENT, AS SUB-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND DR. FIRMIMIO MONTEIRO ROCHA, A SOCIALIST, AS SUB-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INSURANCE. BOTH SECRETARIATS ARE NEWLY CREATED OFFICES. GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET ANNOUNCED NAMES OF REPLACEMENTS FOR POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEMBERS WHO LEFT GOVERNMENT.

2. PPD SPLIT -- SOME PROGRESS: PPD SECRETARY-GENERAL SA CARNEIRO REACHED AGREEMENT DEC 17 WITH PPD MEMBERS WHO HAD SET CONDITIONS TO REMAIN IN PARTY (REFTEL). GROUP INCLUDED FOUR PPD SECRETARIES OF STATE, PPD YOUTH LEADER ANTONIO REBELO DE SOUSA, AND HIS BROTHER, MARCELO, WHO IS AN ASSEMBLY DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT EDITOR OF "EXPRESSO." JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF SA CARNEIRO AND ABOVE GROUP RECOGNIZED RIGHT OF DIFFERENT CURRENTS TO EXIST IN PARTY. COMMUNIQUE PROMISED REVISION OF PARTY STATUTES TO ASSURE INTERNAL DEMOCRACY AND THE REORGANIZATION OF THE PPD'S RECENTLY NAMED SECRETARIAT, WHICH THE DISSIDENTS FELT WAS TOO CONSERVATIVE. THE REBELO DE SOUSA GROUP ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO FORM WITHIN THE PPD A NEW ORGANIZATION CALLED "CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC REFLECTION." MEANWHILE, ASSEMBLY DEPUTY FROM VISEU, CARLOS COELHO DE SOUSA, ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS REJOINING THE PPD, REDUCING THE NUMBER OF DISSIDENT PPD DEPUTIES TO TWENTY. SEVERAL OTHER DEPUTIES ARE CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING TERMS OF THEIR REENTRY TO PARTY.

3. DEMOTIONS: FORMER ARMY CHIEF GEN CARLOS FABIAO WAS DEMOTED TO HIS PERMANENT RANK OF LTC AND FORMER COPCON HEAD GEN OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO WAS DEMOTED TO MAJ.

4. COMMENT: ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES WHO LEFT THE PPD HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE SUPPORT FROM THE PARTY RANK AND FILE, PARTICULARLY IN CONSERVATIVE AREAS LIKE VISEU. COELHO DE SOUSA WAS NEVER ASSOCIATED WITH STRONGLY DISSIDENT FACTION OF SA BORGES OR  
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EMIDIO GUERREIRO, AND HIS REENTRY IN PARTY COULD BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT JOINT COMMUNIQUE DOES NOT ADDRESS STATUS OF THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT PARTY. THEIR REENTRY WILL CONTINUE TO BE DECIDED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS BY SA CARNEIRO, WHO DOES NOT WANT STRONGLY DISSIDENT ELEMENTS TO RETURN.  
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## Message Attributes

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